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NEAR EAST-AFRICA

1. PALESTINE: Israelis urge immediate settlement for Jerusalem--
US Consulate General Jerusalem reports that an Israeli representative has expressed to the French Consul General his pessimism regarding current talks on Jerusalem between Israel and Trans-jordan and Israel's desire for French and US pressure to secure a prompt separate settlement on the status of the city. According to the Consulate General, the Israeli representative indicated that his government was willing to make specific territorial concessions in order to secure a quick settlement, but added that Israel was capable of solving the problem by force, if necessary. The Consulate General expresses the belief that: (a) the proposed division of the city is "extremely favorable" to the Arabs; (b) the Jews, although genuinely desirous of peace, will resort to force if the prospects for an immediate settlement do not improve; and (c) the US should, therefore, seize the present opportunity and press for a prompt settlement of the Jerusalem problem.

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